



**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION COMMISSION**

**Wednesday June 27, 2018**

The meeting began at 4:30 pm. No Quorum

**Commission Members:** Marcus Debro, Gloria Howell, Lily Kleinlein,

**Associates:** David Hummons, Dan Enslow, Debra Vance

**Staff:** Michael Shermis

**Approval of Minutes:** Quorum not met. Minutes for May not approved.

**Staff Liaison Report:** All updates are included in the business items below.

**Old Business:**

- A. Nonviolent Civic Engagement Initiative (Lily/Michael):** Lily shared that the brochure for the initiative is complete and a smaller social media piece is in the works. Rafi is working on gathering a network of facilitators and speakers for the initiative. The group is finalizing details for a forum with Daryl Davis in August (8/13 at 3:30pm) and planning lot of interactive components that will be of interest to adults and young adults/teens.
- B. MLK Birthday Celebration 2019 Speaker Selection:** Janai Nelson (Assistant Director of NAACP's Legal Defense and Education Fund) is not quite under contract but has agreed to be our 2019 speaker. Michael shared a potential itinerary for her time in Bloomington, including a dinner with local NAACP officers on Sunday evening. Michael has been reaching out to Service for Peace and finally heard back that they will not be funding this year but they do plan to resume in 2020 (prep work would begin summer '19). Michael and a CFRD intern went to the Library for a lesson in grant searches and will be working on that in the months ahead. He gave a brief history of the funding of service projects. Commissioners discussed other potential sources for funding. David asked how much our budget will be this year for all programming. Michael said it tends to be around the same every year (\$8,000-10,000).

**New Business:** Rafi is working on gathering a network of facilitators and speakers for the Nonviolent Civic Engagement Initiative.

**Public Comments:** None

**Announcements:**

- Marcus will not be at the July meeting and we will likely cancel.
- Dan updated that the Noah's Ark initiative on Interfaith, Race, and Privilege is building a lot of strength and energy. They have support from IU and had a training with 16 people two weeks ago. They will host a facilitator training on August 1 and participant trainings later in August. They hope to begin small group discussions that will be ongoing throughout the year. Dan asked if we could use the Commission's email list to get information out and recruit facilitators/participants. David clarified that they are specifically doing outreach to the African American community in Bloomington. Michael said they could submit an article for our August newsletter.

**City of Bloomington Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration Commission**

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- Lily shared that there was recent publicity, including a flattering article from the *Herald Times*, about Miss IU, whose talent component is as a ventriloquist with an African American character puppet. She feels it is racially insensitive and knows some who are writing to the HT and to IU about the issues surrounding this act.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 5:10

**Upcoming Meetings:**

July 25, 2018 4:30-5:30 p.m. (McCloskey) **\*\*Pending Cancellation\*\***

August 22, 2018 4:30-5:30 p.m. (McCloskey)

September 26, 2018 4:30-5:30 p.m. (McCloskey)